(b) if no, what action is being considered for the failure of the office of Registrar in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI JASWANT SINGH) : (a) and (b) Registrars of Companies have been instructed by Circular dated 11-12-2002 to prosecute such companies which have not complied with the provisions of Sub-sections (3) and (4) of Section 3 of the Companies Act, 1956. Simultaneously, Government have announced a Simplified Exit Scheme (SES) on 25-3-2003, to enable the defunct companies to exist easily under Section 560 of the Companies Act.

Fees realized by Department of Company Affairs

4109. SHRI S. AGNI RAJ : Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) what is the total fees realized by Department of Company Affairs during financial years 2000-2001, 2001-2002 and 2002-2003;

(b) what is the total expenditure incurred during the above periods, year-wise; and

(c) whether the expenditure incurred is commensurate to the services rendered and fees realized ?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI JASWANT SINGH) : (a) and (b) Fees etc. realized and expenditure incurred by the Department during the last 3 years are as under :—

(Rs. in crores)

Year	Fees realized etc.	Expenditure incurred
2000-01	503.17	36.81
2001-02	305.38	37.48
2002-03	295.91 (upto February, 2003)	31.41 (upto February, 2003)

(c) Yes, Sir.

Corruption in Income Tax Department

4110. SHRI MANOJ BHATTACHARYA : Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it has come to Government's notice that there is rampant corruption in the Income Tax Department for the settlement of refund claims;

(b) if so, the details thereof and Government's response thereto; and

(c) the corrective action proposed to be taken in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN) : (a) No specific complaints relating to rampant corruption have been received by the Vigilance Directorate of the Income Tax Department.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) To counter any malpractices relating to refund claims, the Central Board of Direct Taxes has issued instructions from time to time, for streamlining the procedure. Some such measures include issue of refunds by Registered Post, chronological processing of refund claims etc. Further, the computerisation of Income Tax Department, which is at an advanced stage, will gradually eliminate human intervention.

AMFI Mutual Fund Distributors Test

4111. DR. M.N. DAS : Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it has been made mandatory to pass AMFI Mutual Fund Distributors test being conducted by NSE otherwise their agency will be terminated; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof and the reasons for which the commission of agents have been stopped who could not pass the prescribed test and whether Government propose to do away with clause and release commission of all the agents whose agency have been terminated ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL) : (a) With a view to improving the professional standards of the agents, distributors etc. (Intermediaries) in the Mutual Funds industry, SEBI had prescribed on September 25, 2001 that *w.e.f.* November 01, 2001, all Mutual Funds shall appoint only such agents/distributors who have obtained AMFI certification. The objective of the guidelines was that the intermediaries who are involved in selling or distribution of Mutual Fund units should also have the necessary knowledge to guide the investors for making right investment decisions in accordance with there risk profiles.

The existing agents/distributors were expected to pass the certification examination by March 31, 2003, the date which has now been extended by six